

VICTOR HIKING TRAILS
MEETING AT VICTOR TOWN HALL
March 17, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Dave Wright, Chauncy Young, Carol MacInnis, Wizzy Geno, Barb Cole, Ralph Weber, Dave Coleman, Pete Ingalsbe, and Suzy Paquin.

OTHERS PRESENT: Carol Zimmerman

Meeting called to order by Dave Wright at 7:31p.m.

MINUTES of February 18th meeting, **Motion** to approve the minutes by Carol, seconded by Wizzy. **Approved**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Barb Cole

It was decided to table the financial report until next month.

MEMBERSHIP: Pete Ingalsbe

Pete noted that the membership was at 274 with 57 for renewal. He gave Suzy a copy of the thank you letter for the donation from the employees at STC/Carestream in Canandaigua. He noted that he is caught up on his renewal mailings. He bought some envelopes but forgot the receipt. We received a \$200 donation from a long time member. Pete has written the thank you letter and will bring it next time so that everyone can sign it.

Chauncy noted that there are now 365 members on Meetup.

PUBLICITY & NEWSLETTER: Dave Wright

Dave updated the message line for the special educational hike at Ganondagan on March 26th.

Dave is working on the spring issue of the newsletter and it will be around 12 pages. Please send any articles to Dave. The front page will feature National Trails Day.

National Trails Day

Saturday, June 4th, beginning at 8:30am with a Continental Breakfast (bagels, pastries, fruit, yogurt, juice, coffee, milk, tea)

Meet at the new home of the Victor P&R, 7891 Lehigh Crossing, Fishers NY

Hikes will begin at 9am:

- Hike #1, head north to Fishers Park and traverse the many trails in the park, about 2 miles of hilly trails over boardwalks and bridges, stop at the proposed site of the Nat Fisher Memorial Bridge replacement, about 1 ½ hours.
- Hike #2, head east on the Lehigh Trail down to Phillips Road and make a stop at the new Pinnacle Sports Complex for a tour of the facility, then hike on the

Auburn Trail back towards Main Street Fishers, cross over the creek and follow the Domine Trail back to the Lehigh and back to the P&R center.

- Lunch - Pizza & Drinks
- Hike #3, Head west on the Lehigh towards Mendon, view the improvements that the Mendon Foundation has made to the park and then return to the P&R Center. Approximately 4 miles round trip.

Anyone who does all three hikes, will receive a year's membership.

Dave read the article from the Newsletter about the open position for the Volunteer Coordinator.

(Newsletters now have limited print copies, available at the library, town hall, village hall and some sponsor locations. Anyone can access past and current newsletters on the VHT website.)

Dave noted that Emily Waldman is applying for an Internship at Cornell University to do illustrations of birds for about 40 hrs/week. She will be back this summer to finish the Mural on the weekends.

EDUCATION: Ralph Weber

Ralph coordinated an educational hike at Ganondagan along with a group tour of the new Seneca Art & Culture Center. This will be an additional hike. The date has been set for March 26th. It will take place from 9am to Noon. There will be a group rate of \$5 per person to tour the facility and a \$25 deposit along with a guided hike. Ralph noted that Peter Jemison will be our guide and we will see a movie and then go on a tour. We will meet in the Seneca Art & Culture Center parking lot.

- ✓ The deposit was paid twice by VHT and by Ralph. Barb wrote a check to reimburse Ralph.

Ralph coordinated an educational hike for Mees Observatory in Bristol. They have regular scheduled tours on Friday and Saturday nights in June, July & August. There is a maximum of 25 people, there is no charge, and we have been penciled in for a night hike and tour. We need to pick a weekend with no moon and hopefully no clouds. Ralph suggested that we have dinner at Brew & Brats in Naples before the tour and a hike in the woods before it gets dark. The tour would be from approx 8-9:30pm.

- They do not formalize their schedule until March/April, and then we will have a date.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Wizzy Geno

Volunteers needed for the fundraiser at UNO's on Saturday, 3/19. We will have a table and will need people for 2-hour shifts from 11:00am to 11:00pm. We will set up a display, donation jar, and have membership applications.

Wizzy noted that she has all the slots filled.

Dave said that UNO's will provide a couple of tables and Dave will pick up the display items & donation jar from Chauncy on Saturday at 10:30am.

We will post reminders again on Facebook & Meetup. Pete will send out an email blast – someone please send him the voucher to include.

TRAILMASTER: Carol MacInnis
No Report

TRAIL BOSS: Chauncy Young
Chauncy passed around the Trail Maintenance schedule. It is on the website. He will start to post it on Meetup soon.

He passed around the presentation from the Open House that was held on March 10th. We had six people attend, three from Canandaigua, one from Farmington and two from Victor.

There is a possible new trail in Valentine Estates off of Valentown Road going north from the gas line road. There is a trail easement in the preliminary plans. It goes up to the 30 acre Genesee Land Trust Conservation easement which hooks into the Falcon Ridge 25-foot trail easement.

Another possible trail is from Route 251 to Modock Road, for an eventual connection to Dryer Road Park.

The equipment is ready for the season.

He anticipates doing blazing and checking of the trails first. He would like to schedule a trail sweep to see what needs to be done. Possibly the weekend of April 16 & 17. Let Chauncy know what sections you do and what needs to be done so there is no overlap.

Scout Projects

- *Niles Masoon – Chauncy sent him an email and received no response.*
 - Niles got back to Chauncy and wanted to do the first week of April. Chauncy told him that was not possible, but suggested the end of April or beginning of May. His project would be a short boardwalk and a short bridge near the Apple Farm. Plus, the possibility of shorter ramps on the existing bridge.
- *Daniel Waldman - He is looking to replace a boardwalk that was set too low at Lehigh Crossing Park.*

- Exchanging emails trying to fine tune the scope of the project.
- *Lori Buggie – She is very interested in doing a project, probably in spring 2016. Her project is a boardwalk on the yellow trail behind Monroe Muffler off Route 96.*
 - Nothing new, Chauncy will email her again.
- *George Heltz - a 40' bridge project at Fishbrook/East Victor. He has a much bigger project and is need of more funds than most. George noted that he has raised \$4,700 so far. His goal is \$6,000. George is seeking additional funding from other organizations.*
 - Joe Logan is working on the Fishcreek Bridge design for George.
- *Spencer Kull – a big bridge by the Longhorn restaurant. No recent news from him. Dave sent an email and Spencer is thinking about another project indoors and will let us know if he is still interested in the bridge after the holidays.*
 - Dave W has not heard anything back from Spencer – he will email him again to see if he was still interested.

Fisher Memorial Bridge: Update

Chauncy has drawn a sketch, written the narrative and filled out the application for the permit. It will go to the Building Department and the State for permits. Dave stated that VHT will be applying for a grant from the American Hiking Society towards the Nat Fisher Bridge.

- Chauncy will see if Joe can work on the bridge design after he finishes George's bridge design.
- Then the plans can be turned in to the DEC.
- Chauncy has been working with Al Benedict regarding the flood plains and how high the bridge needs to be.

LAST HIKE:

The hike was on March 12th at Dryer Road Park and Fort Hill/Ganondagan. There were 20 hikers. There was a group of students from Canandaigua. It was about a two-hour hike at a good pace.

OLD BUSINESS:

Parks and Trails New York, Growing the Grassroots Capacity-Building Grant:
Awarded the grant in the amount of \$2,500. The kick-off meeting was in April 2015. We met with the consultant, Ed Flynn of LaBella Associates. The final report has been received and the public meeting was held on March 10th at the Town Hall. After the plan is finalized, then we need to put it in action. Presentations have been made to the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Conservation Board and the P&R Citizens' Advisory

Committee. We are finished except for the presentation to the Town Board. Then we would contact Parks & Trails to say we are done.

We would like to make the presentation to the Town Board on 4/25/16 under Privilege of the Floor. Dave said he would encourage all VHT Board Members to attend to show their support.

Note: Date of Presentation has been changed to the May 9, 2016 Town Board Meeting.

Dave W noted that the Conservation Board was very interested, had questions & suggestions. One suggestion was that since a lot of our trails are multi-use, we should be contacting bike shops for support.

Networking Opportunities

Dave noted that he attended the Chamber meeting and talked to Chris Parsons. If we need a contact with troop 61, he will help.

Dave attended another meeting last night and talked to a company from Fishers located on Canning Parkway, Advanced Interconnect Manufacturing (AIM). They collect bottles and cans and once a quarter they donate the money to different non-profit organizations. Dave will send them a letter with VHT info.

Victor Brewery Donation

A thank you letter will be sent.

Note: A letter was sent on March 27th.

American Hiking Society Grant

The American Hiking Society Grants for this year, apply now through February 19th. We would use the funds for the Fishers Park Bridge. We need a sketch of the project, the cost, and how it will benefit the community. Chauncy will send to Dave to complete the application. Dave sent in the application.

- ✓ Deadline was 2/19 – Dave W noted he was an hour late in filing the application.

National Trails Day

The hikes were discussed already. Dave will talk to Pinnacle about a visit.

Farmington – Auburn Trail Connector Project

Still under the engineering design and hope for a bid date this fall, winter at the latest.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dave received an email from someone in North Tonawanda who has a new book – Waterfall Guide to Letchworth State Park, \$10.95.

Chauncy sent Dave an email regarding the Burroughs Audubon Nature Center. They had a dinner meeting with a speaker from the Montezuma Center. One of the speakers was Harvey Limbeck.

National Trails Day – Now that we know what we are doing, we can register our hike on the American Hiking Society website and purchase a kit. The Standard Kit is \$69.95. We usually buy one standard kit plus extra t-shirts. A pack of 10 shirts cost \$149.95. It was decided to purchase one standard kit plus 5-7 extra t-shirts.

Motion by Pete to purchase one standard kit plus extra t-shirts up to \$220 from American Hiking Society, seconded by Dave C – **Approved**.

Victor Garden Club – Sign Donation

We received a letter from the Victor Garden Club requesting donations for a new sign to be located at Fishers Corners. There are 4 donation levels: \$1,000-Platinum; \$500-Gold; \$250-Silver; \$100-Bronze.

Motion by Chauncy to donate \$100, Bronze Level, to the Victor Garden Club towards the new sign at Fishers Corners, seconded by Dave C – **Approved**

EMS Private Sale – 4/10

This is an afterhours special member sale from 6-9pm. We just need to RSVP with the # of club members. We will notify members by putting it on the website, Facebook, Meetup, and email. Dave will notify EMS.

Dave passed around the following:

- Stoney Ridge Maple Farm on County Road 28 in Farmington is having an all you can eat Pancake Breakfast on 3/19 & 3/20 from 10am to 2pm. Then again on April 2nd & 3rd.
- Cycle the Erie Canal – Annual Bike Ride 7/10-7/17, 400 mile ride.
- Valentown/Victor Historical Society Newsletter
- Trailworks Quarterly Newsletter
- American Hiking Society 40th Anniversary
- Finger Lakes Trail Quarterly Newsletter

Barb asked if she could write a check to Apparel Printers Plus for her VHT shirt, she has made her contribution for her share of the shirt.

NEXT HIKE:

The next hike is the special educational one on Saturday, March 26th, at the Seneca Art & Culture Center at Ganondagan.

The next monthly hike is on April 9th at MaryFrances Bluebird Haven & Monkey Run Trails, meet at the Butler Cottage at 9:00am.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, April 21, 2016, 7:30 p.m. at Victor Town Hall.

Motion to adjourn by Ralph at 8:46pm.

Respectfully submitted by Suzy Paquin

Schedule of 2016 Hikes/Outings:

- March 19th – Fundraiser at UNO's
- March 26th – Educational Hike at Ganondagan & Tour
- April 9th – MaryFrances Bluebird Haven/Monkey Run Trails
- April 23rd – Arbor Day Celebration w/Village Tree Board (giving away pine trees)
- May 14th – Boughton Park
- June 4th – National Trails Day – P&R, 7891 Lehigh Crossing
- TBD (June/July/August) – Mees Observatory, Educational tour & hike
- June 11th – Mendon Ponds Hike / ADK Expo, 10am
- July 9th – Bike Ride – TBD
- July ? – Boughton Park Hike w/Genesee Land Trust
- August 13th – Conklin Gully
- September 3rd – Ring of Fire Hike
- September 10th – *HAVD* - Victor Municipal Park/Trolley/Auburn/Ganondagan, 11am
- September 25th – Challenge Hike - TBD
- October 8th – Finger Lakes Trail – Bristol Hills Branch
- November 12th – Valentown to Woodcliff & back
- December 10th – Meet at Lehigh Crossing Park - Lehigh/Auburn/Trolley